

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 IO-13 EB-08 AGRE-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 TRSE-00

OMB-01 EUR-12 COME-00 /113 W

-----115459 171449Z /45

R 161405Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9325

INFO AMCONGEN HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 3553

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: HK, CH, LI, PGOV

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S TRIP TO CHINA

REF: MONROVIA 3524 (NOTAL)

1. THOMAS BESTMAN, COORDINATOR FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, INFORMED THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR MAY 15 THAT THE STATE VISIT TO CHINA FOR PRESIDENT WILLIAM R. TOLBERT, JR. WOULD TAKE PLACE JUNE 19 TO 29. THE PRESIDENTS'S ENTOURAGE WILL BE COMPOSED OF FOREIGN MINISTER C. CECIL DENNIS; THOMAS BESTMAN; AGRICULTURE MINISTER FLORENCE CHENOWETH; INFORMATION MINISTER J. JENKINS PEAL; LABOR, YOUTH AND SPORTS MINISTER ESTRADA BERNARD; MINISTER OF STATE WITHOUT PROTFOLIO CHARLES CLARKE; DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE GERALD PADMORE; DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS JOHN WESSEH MCCLAIN; AND PERHAPS ONE OR TWO OTHERS.
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2. BESTMAN COMMENTED THAT THE GOL HAS BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE "SERIOUS ATTITUDE" OF THE PRC REPRESENTATIVES AND THE "PRACTICAL NATURE" OF THEIR HELP TO LIBERIA THROUGH RICE AND SUGAR PROJECTS, ALTHOUGH HE CONFIRMED REPORTS THAT THE SPORTS STADIUM PROPOSAL HAD RUN INTO DIFFICULTIES WHEN THE LIBERIANS FOUND THAT THE CHINESE

OFFER WAS NOT SO LIBERAL AS EARLIER UNDERSTOOD.
THE CHINESE AID PROGRAM, HE SAID, CONTRASTED WITH SOVIET
ACTIVITIES IN LIBERIA WHICH -- HE HINTED -- APPEARED
TO BE MORE BLATANTLY SELF-SEEKING THAT THE CHINESE,
AND NO PRACTICAL VALUE TO LIBERIA,
CARTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Reason:
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